



U.S. Department of Justice

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SALEM MAN SENTENCED IN CRACK COCAINE CASE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Manchester Police Chief John Jaskolka, and New Hampshire State Police Colonel Gary Sloper, today announced that Jose Huerta-Cordero, 31, of Salem, New Hampshire, was sentenced by the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire to five years in prison for distributing crack cocaine in the Manchester and Londonderry area during the summer of 2002.

The charges were the result of a joint investigation conducted by the New Hampshire State Police Narcotics Investigation Unit and the Manchester Police Department. During the period from July 26, 2002 through September 18, 2002, Huerta-Cordero made five sales of crack cocaine to three separate undercover officers working for the Narcotics Investigation Unit of the New Hampshire State Police. Huerta-Cordero delivered the crack cocaine hidden in pieces of fruit. Huerta-Cordero sold more than 25 grams of crack cocaine to the undercover agents during this period. Huerta-Cordero brought the drugs to New Hampshire from Lawrence, Massachusetts.

U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "My office will continue to dedicate itself to combating the trafficking of drugs from Massachusetts to our state's largest city. The cooperative effort of the Manchester Police Department and the New Hampshire State Police has been successful in removing many significant dealers from our city streets. We will continue to assist these law enforcement agencies in the fight against drug trafficking." Assistant U. S. Attorney Don Feith handled this prosecution.